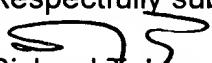


REMARKS

The subject patent application is currently on appeal. In order to further focus the appeal and simplify the issues in question, the appellant has filed in conjunction with a reply brief, this amendment under 37 CFR 41.33(b)(1) canceling Claims 3, 4 and 10-17. This amendment only cancels claims and the cancellations do not affect the scope of any other pending claims in the appeal. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the amendment be entered.

Respectfully submitted,

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